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Docket No.: CENTRO-110  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Colombani et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: N/A

Filing Date:

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: PRODUCTION OF HYDROGEN FROM A  
GASEOUS HYDROCARBON AND SYSTEM  
USED IN SAID PROCEDURE

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record and considered with respect to the above-referenced U.S. patent application. A copy of each reference is enclosed. These references were cited in the background section of the present specification and/or a corresponding International Search Report, a copy of which is enclosed. Submission of the present Information Disclosure Statement should not be taken as an admission that the cited references are legally available prior art or that the same are pertinent or material.

In the event that any fee is due in connection with the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

Dated: January 23, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	Piero Colombani
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	CENTRO-110

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	A	WIPO-99/43608-A		Niagara Mohawk Power Cr		✓

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
✓	B	R. Aiello, et al., "hydrogen production via the direct cracking of methane over Ni/SiO <sub>2</sub> : catalyst deactivation and regeneration", Applied Catalysis A: General., Vol. 192, 200, pages 227-234, XP001023644 Elsevier Science, Amsterdam., NL ISSN: 0926-860X	✓
✓	C	Poirier, et al., "Catalytic decomposition of natural gas to hydrogen for fuel cell applications", International Journal Of Hydrogen Energy, Elsevier Science Publishers B. V., Barking, GB, Vol. 22, No. 4, 1 April 1997, pages 429-433, XP000678376 ISSN: 0360-3199	✓
✓	D	Choudhary, et al., "Stepwise methane steam reforming: A route to co-free hydrogen, Catalysis Letters, Baltzer, Scientific publ., Basel, CH, Vol. 59, No. 2/4, June 1999, pages 93-94, XP000835412 ISSN: 1011-372X	✓
✓	E	Database WPI Section Ch, Week 198426 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB: Class E36, AN 1984-162882 XP002176039 & SU 243 580 A (AS UKR GAS INST), 15 January 1984	✓

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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